

the agriculture community, particularly the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Phil has had an extensive and outstanding career in the Fresno County Farm Bureau. Following his long membership, he became involved on the board of directors where he served as the first agricultural chemical chairman in the late 1980s. In 1996, he became the president of the bureau and served for over two years. Phil believes, and once stated, the "Farm Bureau represents the morality of agriculture."

During his term as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, Phil was a strong advocate for agriculture and farming industries. He spearheaded the advancement and introduction of several water supply, pesticide use and farm related pieces of legislation. Phil was also on the forefront of several priority-setting documents such as "A Landscape of Choice"—the land use policy document of April 1998. He was extremely dedicated in addressing agricultural issues and was deemed a "24-hour President" for his unrelenting commitment to serve the bureau.

Amazingly enough, the 24-hour President also found time to lend a helping hand in his community. Phil Larson's involvement in his community has been far-reaching, ranging from serving as the Kerman High football announcer to the California Farm Bureau Federation State Director for District 7 in 2000–2001. He has served on the State board of California Agriculture Production Consultants Association and has been involved with several other boards and organizations including the Western Crop Protection Chemicals Association, Fresno County/City Chamber of Commerce, Kerman Unified School District Board, Kerman Covenant Church Board and Kerman High Boosters. At present, he serves as the District One supervisor and chair of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

As the supervisor for District One and board chair, Phil Larson represents the Fresno County Board of Supervisors on several boards and commissions such as the Central Valley Project Authority, Mid-Valley Water Authority, San Joaquin River Conservancy, San Joaquin Valley Supervisors Endangered Species Committee, Transportation Authority and the Governing Board of the Fresno Madera Area Agency on Aging. Undoubtedly, Phil continues to serve his community and has received numerous awards and recognitions for his exceptional service.

Phil Larson's commitment to advance the agricultural industry in the Valley and his wide-ranging contributions to the community, and his church are accomplishments worthy of recognition. It is my pleasure to honor such a great man and I want to extend, on behalf of the residents of Fresno County, my sincerest appreciation for his dedication and service and offer my heartfelt congratulations to Phil for receiving the 2006 Fresno County Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service" Award.

STATEMENT ON THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today, on the 38th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering this solemn day. Yet while we reflect on Dr. King's death, we should also celebrate his legacy of service and justice—for he was ever hopeful about the future of our nation.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15, 1929. He was one of three children of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., and Alberta Williams King, in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King graduated high school two years early and went on to study at Morehouse College, Crozer Theological Seminary, and Boston University. He began his career as an assistant pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta.

During his time leading the civil rights movement, Dr. King was arrested on more than thirty occasions for doing the right thing. He served as president of the Montgomery Improvement Association during the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott. He founded and led the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from 1957 until his death in 1968. He led the March on Washington in 1963, delivering the "I Have A Dream" speech to thousands, and focusing the eyes of the world on the American civil rights movement.

Martin Luther King, Jr., worked tirelessly to promote the political, economic and social rights of millions of Americans, particularly those who felt that equal justice was beyond their reach. His passion was unmatched, his strength and perseverance were remarkable, and his enduring commitment to peace has provided an example to us all.

On April 3, 1968, Dr. King was in Memphis to support the striking Sanitation Workers' Union. The night before his assassination, Dr. King prophetically declared that the movement for racial equality may have to continue without him. That night, he and other civil rights activists stayed at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

The next afternoon, April 4, Dr. King, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, and Memphis minister Rev. Billy Kyles, met at the Lorraine motel. The three of them spoke briefly before Dr. King and Rev. Kyles stepped out onto the balcony. His colleagues, including the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the Reverend James Bevel, Hosea Williams, and the Reverend Andrew Young Jr. waited in the parking lot below with the car that would have taken Dr. King to his dinner. At 6:01 PM, a single shot rang out. One hour later, Dr. King, the icon of peaceful, nonviolent change, was pronounced dead at St. Joseph's Hospital.

The following day, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared Sunday, April 7 a day of national mourning. Attending his funeral on April 9 were nearly 100,000 mourners who had felt Dr. King's impact and had come to pay their

respects. His coffin traveled through his hometown of Atlanta from Ebenezer Baptist Church to Morehouse College, his alma mater.

In the years since his death, his widow, Coretta Scott King, whom we mourned in January, carried on his work and his legacy. So many others who fought alongside Dr. King have also dedicated themselves to keeping the dream alive. I consider it an honor to serve on the Ways and Means Committee with my friend and colleague, John Lewis, who spoke so eloquently this morning of his friendship with Dr. King.

The anniversary of Dr. King's assassination should remind us that America has far to go in the struggle to recognize all its citizens as equals. I look forward to the vote in this chamber to renew the Voting Rights Act before its provisions expire in the summer of 2007, and I would hope that we would remember and honor Dr. King's commitment to end poverty and injustice in all our work in the House.

At Dr. King's funeral, former Morehouse President Dr. Benjamin Mays spoke these words: "Martin Luther King, Jr., believed in a united America. He believed that the walls of separation brought on by legal and de facto segregation, and discrimination based on race and color, could be eradicated." Let us all share in Dr. King's beliefs and his dream for a better America.

CELEBRATING DOMINIC PETER TORLONE'S 80TH YEAR AND CONTINUED COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today we extend best wishes on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Dominic Peter Torlone of Huntington, West Virginia. Born in Logan, West Virginia on April 7, 1926, Dominic has lived in Huntington for the past 44 years and was the long-time owner and operator of Torlone's Community Bakery, a staple of the Huntington community, along with his brothers, Louie and Alfred. His parents, Peter and Carmela Maria Torlone, originally opened Torlone's Bakery in 1946.

As any Huntington native will attest, Dominic is loved by all in the community. He is always ready with a warm smile and cheerful greeting for his fellow Huntingtonians, either in English or his favorite Italian. He exemplifies the decency and strong citizenship of his generation.

Dominic and his wife, Mrs. Harriet Torlone, are the proud parents of four children, Amy Harris, Lisa Koch, Mark Torlone, and Beth Sigall, and nine grandchildren. Although he officially retired from Torlone's Bakery in 1995, he remains an active member of Huntington's civic landscape, devoting many hours of service to worthy causes such as the Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph's Catholic Church, where he attends daily mass. He is truly a favorite son of West Virginia and we salute his continued service to Huntington on this his 80th birthday.